

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY TO RESUME POTASH DRILLING

Important Exploration Work In Nevada Is Not to Be Abandoned

STATUS OF THE RENO BACK HAUL
EXPLAINED BY NEVADA COMMISSION

The sixth annual report of the State Railroad commission and the third annual report of the Public Service commission has been issued covering all rulings up to March 29, 1914. The report states that at the close of 1913 there were three cases pending in the United States district court for Nevada in which cases the commissioners were a party defendant. Two of these were suits brought by the Southern Pacific and the Tonopah & Goldfield railroad to restrain certain orders made by the commission reducing freight rates on the lines of the two companies in the state of Nevada. The cases mentioned had been pending a long time in the federal court and the orders of the commission had been enjoined. This was due to the fact that similar cases were under advisement in the United States supreme court in what are known as the Minnesota rate cases. When these cases were settled in 1913 the supreme court rejected the long-established methods and principles of apportionment and calculation adopted by the railroads in those cases. As a result the Nevada companies that were contesting the orders of the commission were left no ground to stand on. In passing upon the Minnesota rate cases the supreme court practically upheld every command of the Nevada board and the Southern Pacific found itself without any legal ground whereon to resist the order. It was then the railroad had the case reopened and a new schedule of rates was promptly put into effect. This showed a saving to the shippers of Nevada of \$29,000 a year.

During 1913 some 55 cases were taken up by the commission. Many have been decided and all that are of consequence are well under way for a final decision. The report regrets that the supreme court of the United States still withholds its decision in what is known as the Reno case, involving the back haul charge from Sacramento. This case is by far the most important that the commission has had and a decision would affect 80 to 85 per cent of all westbound freights brought into Nevada. With reference to this the commission explains the status as follows:

"The cause of this long delay is, of course, not known to the public or to the members of this commission. After having been fully argued and presented to the supreme court, a new justice, Mr. Justice Pitney, was appointed to fill a vacancy in that court. A little later the case was reopened for further argument, the general understanding being that it was done in order that Mr. Justice Pitney might be fully advised with respect to the character of the case. But even this took place something like a year ago, and we are still without a decision. The natural conclusion is that the court must be very evenly divided and is holding the case in abeyance for the purpose of reconciling differences and rendering a decision by the court with as little division as possible. But what concerns us most is that the pendency of this case has completely tied the hands of this commission with respect to the Reno case. We cannot, under present conditions, carry that case farther. In saying this there is no purpose to convey the idea that the matter is ended. If the Interstate Commerce commission is sustained in its fourth-section orders it will, as has been heretofore stated, give to our people a measure of relief so substantial that it may be accepted as a settlement of the question for some time to come. Should these orders be held invalid, then the Reno case proper can be again taken up and pressed to a final decision."

Meanwhile it should be remarked that the railroads themselves have, during the period of the pendency of these fourth-section cases, made substantial reductions in rates upon a large number of commodities moving westward into Nevada, which reductions have heretofore been estimated to amount to approximately \$100,000 a year. With the final settlement of the Reno case, whether upon the basis of the fourth-section orders as already made by the Interstate commission or by special order in the Reno case itself, this commission has estimated that the saving to the people of the State of Nevada in the matter of freight charges will be in

the neighborhood of \$500,000 a year, over and above all the reductions heretofore named.

"At this point it seems fitting for the commission to give expression to the optimistic view that the day of the state's deliverance is not very far in the future. While the Reno case has not, up to the present time, been entirely successful, it is in a large measure conceded, not only by the Interstate Commerce commission, but by the leading railroad officials in the country, that in the manner of its make-up and presentation the Reno case is unique among all the great cases presented for the consideration of the Interstate Commerce commission. In fact, some very prominent railroad officials have conceded, privately, that the Reno case will ultimately, and that in the comparatively near future, revolutionize the whole system of rate-making for westbound traffic from eastern territory into the intermountain region by the practical elimination of what has been termed the "back-haul charge." This naturally has been, and it is believed will be, hastened by the completion of the Panama canal.

In its last annual report the commission presented, with the nearest possible approach to accuracy, figures showing the amount of reductions in freight rates and passenger fares that had been effected up to time; also the expense of maintaining this commission compared with the savings effected, and also compared with the expense of maintaining similar commissions in other states.

The aggregate of the savings effected amounted to \$665,000 per annum, and that the expense of the Nevada commission was very much less than the expense of maintaining any other railroad commission in the United States.

TWO DEPARTMENTS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CLOSED NEXT YEAR

ALL NIGHT SESSION OF TRUSTEES TO DISPOSE OF APPOINTMENTS.

The new board of school trustees for the Tonopah district met Saturday evening and remained in session until 4:30 o'clock next morning. Chauncey Smith, Mrs. Louise Hayes and Miss Florence Bray, of the high school staff, were re-elected. The other positions were not filled, as the trustees deemed it necessary to know more of the personality and qualifications of the applicants. All the former grade teachers were re-elected with the exception of Miss Wallace, Miss Alice Meffley and Miss Vivian Warren, who resigned to accept other appointments. Their places were filled by Miss Alice Tip-ton, a primary teacher of large experience, a part of whose teaching was done in Ely for four years, Miss Muriel Robb, of Tonopah, and Miss Hazel Taylor, of Silver City, Nev.

CIVIL WAR NEXT
SAYS DELEGATION
FROM COLORADO

GOING TO WASHINGTON TO INTERCEDE WITH THE PRESIDENT.

(By Associated Press.)
CHICAGO, May 15.—Judge Ben Lindsey, of Denver, and five women passed through on their way to Washington to ask the president not to withdraw federal troops from the strike zone. Lindsey asserted civil war would result if the regulars were replaced by militiamen. Three women in the party had children in the latter half of the century.

Utah Credited
With a Strike

Reports from Milford, Utah, caused by a small stampede from Goldfield at midnight, is what he described as the richest gold country found since the Southern Nevada boom. Several cars of Goldfield men passed through Tonopah this morning at 1 o'clock, all headed for Milford, where it was reported that values in free milling gold quartz ran as high as \$400 a ton.

ROUTINE CHANGE
ONLY IN THE
MEXICAN
TROUBLESENATOR WILLIAMS SHARPLY
ARRAIGNS WILSON FOR HIS
POLICY.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, May 19.—While the president and cabinet discussed mediation there were only routine developments in the Mexican crisis. The American commissioners to the Canadian peace conference are en route to the destination, and the senate for the first time in many days was calm. Senator John Sharp Williams arraigned his colleagues when he read a letter from a gentleman in the government service at Vera Cruz, in which the writer stated "the noisiest thing in Mexico is the American dollar." He predicted it would cost 200,000 lives and five billion dollars to "take Mexico and hold Mexicans in subjection."

MORGAN'S LACKEY
ADMITS MELLEN
IN HIS TESTIMONYPRESIDENT NEW HAVEN RAIL
ROAD PROUD OF SERVING
RICH MAN.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, May 19.—Charles Mellen, former president of the New Haven railroad, continued today before the Interstate Commerce commission his testimony regarding financial transactions of the road and its subsidiaries. He said he was asked by J. P. Morgan to become president of the Northern Pacific over the telephone. He quoted Morgan as inquiring, "Can anybody hear?"

The commission counsel asked: "Were you Morgan's man?" Mellen replied: "I have been called his office boy by the press, and am proud of his confidence. I am proud to be called his man."

Mellen told the commission he conferred with President Roosevelt before he purchased the Boston & Maine to consolidate it with the New Haven. Roosevelt did not advise the purchase, Mellen said, but told him he must not expect relief from him in case he should violate the law.

RECOVERS FULL VALUE
WITH INTEREST ADDED

The face value of a note for \$4,000 and seven years' interest at one per cent per month, were awarded by a decision of the supreme court at Carson, confirming the judgment of the Nevada county district court, to Mrs. J. T. Barnum, executrix of the estate of her husband. The Nevada Mining and Ore Purchasing company of Manhattan was defendant.

COUNTY BUYS AUTOMOBILE
FOR ROAD INSPECTION

The county commissioners have decided to purchase a new automobile for use in inspecting the county roads and to engage the heavy cost of hiring machines whenever county employees have to make long journeys on official business.

SCIENTISTS BELIEVE THEY WILL FIND
DEPOSITS IN NEVADA'S OLD LAKE BEDS

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 19.—The United States geological survey is planning to continue exploratory drilling for potash in the west during the coming season and will probably have the work done by contract if favorable bids can be obtained. Among other plans for the potash

JAMES KEALEY IS
PRIZE WINNER IN
STORY CONTESTPRIZE OFFERED BY MRS. HUGH
H. BROWN AWARDED BY
COMMITTEE.

James Kealey, of the senior class of the high school, was declared the winner in the short story contest for which Mrs. Hugh H. Brown offered a prize of \$10. A board of judges consisting of Mrs. J. K. Fisher, Mrs. Roy MacDonald and Dr. Burdick, met Saturday evening and read the ten stories that had been submitted and rendered the following decision: James Kealey, 14, first; Lavoy Davis, 14, second; Freda Daoust, 15, third. The choice of subjects was left entirely to the contestants. The prize-winning stories and such of the others as are needed will be printed in the June issue of the high school paper, The Prospector, and others in later issues.

The list of those who entered the contest and the titles of their stories were as follows:

Joe T. Murphy—"The Redemption Mine."
James Kealey—"Mother Ray."
Nellie Johnson—"There's No Place Like Home."
John M. Cuddy—"All Is Fair in Love and War."
May Kimball—"Disappointment."
James C. Martin—"Autobiography of a Cat."
Mary Harrington—"The Unfortunate Jew."
William Cuddy—"King and O'Connor, Treasure Hunters."
Lavoy Davis—"Circumstantial Evidence."
Freda Daoust—"A Wish Fulfilled."

At the close of the afternoon's session today Mrs. Brown bestowed the prize upon the winner and expressed herself as well pleased with the results of the contest as a means of stimulating interest in literary endeavor.

A report that the winning story was completed with the aid of a professional writer led to an inquiry, with the result that the writer was completely vindicated and the story accepted as original.

MAY DEVELOP POWER
TO COVER LARGE AREA

Pointing out to water users of the Lahontan project that leasing the government power plant would bring in \$1,000 to \$2,000 per month to reduce the operating and maintenance charges, Project Manager Cole has issued a circular letter asking the farmers to vote on the proposition. He announces that a ten-year lease will be readvertised.

NEW YORK BANKER
DIES AT HIS DESK

NEW YORK, May 19.—Edward Burns, vice-president of the American Exchange National bank, died at his desk today.

Three Men Hurt
By Explosion

(By Associated Press.)
VALLEJO, May 18.—Three men were injured, one fatally, by the explosion of a steam box in the naval receiving ship in a tugboat. The explosion hurt an iron pipe and the men nearby, suffocated. J. Kelly, chief welder, is reported dying.

HUERTA KEEPS UP
REPUTATION FOR
LYING ABOUT
HOSTAGESNO INFORMATION ABOUT JOHN
SILLMAN, MISSING
CONSUL.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, May 19.—Reports from Mexico City that after long delay a train has arrived from San Luis Potosi without American Consul John Sillman, concerning whose safety Huerta has given repeated assurances, have reassured concern among state department officials.

Secretary Bryan said several messages received from Huerta by the foreign office saying Sillman, held by federalists at Saltillo, had been released, and was en route to Mexico City under guard. Information from Huerta regarding the American, private, Samuel Parks, which was demanded, is also awaited. Though unofficially satisfied that Parks was executed outside of Vera Cruz by Mexican federalists, the Huerta government has failed to communicate details.

PURPLE AND WHITE
SHOULD GREET
MEN FROM ELYBUSINESS MEN ARE INVITED TO
DECORATE FOR THEIR
GUESTS.

Ely Elks to the number of three score will be here Saturday afternoon with several dozen candidates whose names have been passed upon as eligible for the honors of admission to the B. P. O. E. The Tonopah lodge has arranged a program of entertainment that will occupy three days and evenings, and there will not be a dull moment during the stay of the visitors.

The boys from Ely are a whole-souled bunch and it has been suggested that the business men and householders should decorate for the occasion by hanging out the colors of the order—purple and white. This was overlooked at the last initiation of the Ely bunch, but if business men should comply with the request the action would be taken as an added compliment to the members of the order.

STENOGRAPHER SEIZES
ALLEGED BAG SNATCHER

PHILADELPHIA, May 19.—Instead of searching for help or fainting when she saw her handbag stolen, Miss Nellie Hazlett, a young woman stenographer in the Commercial Trust building, seized and held William Wilson, a six-foot negro, whom she accused of stealing the bag.

The bag was taken from the office where Miss Hazlett is employed.

SPOILING A STORY
BY GIVING FACTS
OF A GUN PLAYHEROISM OF A SLEUTH PROVES
TO BE CHEAP MELO-
DRAMA.

The secret is out. The villain is foiled. Weird music and slow curtain. The Goldfield sleuth who held up seven terrible highlanders and singlehandedly riveted them to the spot with his magnetic eye while he searched for stolen property turns out to have tooted his own horn pretty lively.

Readers of the Bonanza will recall the hair-raising exploit, how the sleuth invaded the den of a bunch of Tonopah highlanders armed with two big forty-fours and compelled them to stand still while he dug up seven tons of high grade. After recovering the property the sleuth modestly confessed that he had to let the thieves go while he took care of the plunder. The facts are that Detective Reimer, of Goldfield, came to Tonopah the other night for the purpose of buying a quantity of ore said to be worth something more than shipping value. He met his men and arranged the purchase. He was accompanied by two Goldfield automobiles. The ore was loaded into these machines and then Reimer told the boys he would accompany them inside the cabin and settle the bill. The boys went indoors and then Reimer sprang into one of the autos and gave the word to start for Goldfield. To enforce his order he pulled a gatling and leveled it at the door of the cabin, shouting that he would shoot the first man who attempted to follow him.

Now attorneys are asking what right had the detective or anybody else to come over from an adjoining county and take away valuable property without due process of law. If the sellers held the ore illegally they should have been arrested and the ore held subject to the order of court. The officer had no more right to take the ore than any thief would have to enter a bank and hold up the employees while he took away all the money in sight.

PATRIOTS SHOULD
OBSERVE THE DAYTIME FOR CITIZENS OF TONOPAH
TO PREPARE FOR PROPER
CELEBRATION.

The Tonopah military band is the first organization to take up the matter of observing Memorial day, which occurs a week from tomorrow. The musicians, through the Bonanza, tender their services to the patriotic societies for the day, when they will appear for the first time in their new uniforms.

The Women's Relief Corps has called a meeting for tomorrow afternoon when the observance will be discussed and it is probable that a citizens' committee will be asked to take hold of the arrangements to the end that the celebration be general and in accord with the spirit shown by Tonopah in displaying the national colors on declaration of hostilities.

FIRE DESTROYS MILL
AT PYRAMID LAKE

The stamp mill belonging to F. O. Sackett, on the old Surprise Valley road, five miles from Pyramid Lake, was destroyed by fire Saturday morning. The mill had just been repaired.

been drilled by private interests during the last year, including some rather extensive work in Railroad valley, Nevada, and several borings, some of which are a thousand feet deep, in Death valley and Panamint valley, California. Besides these a considerable amount of shallow drilling has also been done. Of all the localities explored the deposit at Searles Lake, California, seems to afford the most immediate promise of potash developments. However, the importance of this one example as a type of the deposit for which this search was instituted is sufficient to stimulate a continued investigation in the other basins.

The site proposed for further work by the geological survey lies in the "sink," or low part of the Black Rock desert, which was one of the principal arms of the prehistoric Lake Lahontan. The first test made in the Carson desert was inconclusive so far as the discovery of any salt deposits is concerned.

The Black Rock desert is the center of an immense arm of the former Lake Lahontan. Its present surface is a bare, flat mud playa, occasionally submerged with water as a result of storms, but during the summer season generally dry and hard. Its surface lies at practically the same elevation as the Carson sink. It was therefore submerged to the same depth as the Carson sink during the lake period.

If favorable bids are submitted by reliable drilling contractors it is likely that the sinking of the new wells will be let by contract, provision being made to procure the necessary record samples under the direct supervision of the geological survey. It is desired to sink at least 1,200 and possibly 2,000 feet in this basin, and as a preliminary test this sinking may be done with either a standard or a rotary rig.

The site selected for the first work will probably be in the estimated center of the old concentration basin, northeast of Gerlach, four or five miles from the main line of the Western Pacific railway, due north of a station called Trogo. There should be no difficulty in moving an outfit to or from this site, as between it and the railway lies only the bare, smooth desert surface, which bakes firm and very hard during the dry season. It is expected that bids for the drilling contract will be called for at an early date.

HERD POISONED
AT STONE CABIN
BY NEW MALADY

Reports from the eastern end of Nye county state that some forty steers and milch cows have died during the past week from some strange disease which has decimated the herds of that district. The owners say it is not a case of loco and the symptoms are wholly unlike anything in the experience of any stockman in that section. The loss has been reported to the bureau of animal husbandry of the University of Nevada and the stomachs of several of the animals have been forwarded to Reno for a chemical test to determine the nature of the plague.

JAPAN PLEADING
FOR DISARMAMENT
OF ALL NATIONS

(By Associated Press.)
TOKYO, May 15.—A plea to press the world's work for removal of misunderstandings and suspicion between nations was made by Prince Count Shigenobu Okuma in addressing Japanese and foreign journalists. He said unqualified suspicion led to hostilities by peaceful countries, such as New Zealand and Australia. "America has no enemies, so what is the use of hostilities on the Panama canal?" he inquired.

Advertise in the Bonanza.